

ORDINANCE NO.726

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CRISFIELD, MARYLAND TO SET AND ESTABLISH THE RATES FOR SEWER SERVICE FEES AND CHARGES FOR THE PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 BUDGET OF THE CITY OF CRISFIELD, MARYLAND.

WHEREAS, MD Code, Environment, § 9-705 and Section C9-1 of the Charter of the City of Crisfield, respectively, authorize the City of Crisfield to construct, operate, modify and maintain a water and sewerage system;

WHEREAS, MD Code, Environment, §§ 9-723-26 and Section C9-13 of the Charter of the City of Crisfield, respectively, authorize the City of Crisfield to establish rates, fees and charges for municipal water and sewer services;

WHEREAS, the water and sewer rates of the City of Crisfield must be set and established in accordance with the proposed Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget of the City of Crisfield and the appropriations thereby made and established for purposes of the Water and Sewer Department; and,

WHEREAS, on May 22, 2024, Mayor and Council of the City of Crisfield, in accordance with MD Code, Environment, § 9-727, conducted a public hearing on this Ordinance and the sewer rates set forth herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CRISFIELD, MARLAND THAT, for purposes of adopting the sewer rate schedule for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget of the City of Crisfield, Chapter 94 of the Crisfield City Code is hereby defined as;

Section 1. § 94-9 of the Crisfield City Code, entitled “Definition and word usage”, is defined as;

- A. Domestic single-family dwelling residence and small commercial customer:
 - (1) Minimum Charge (water utilization of 4,000 gallons or less in a month) - \$39.25/month, per unit
 - (2) Commodity Charge (water utilization in excess of 4,000 gallons in a month) - \$5.35/thousand gallons, per unit
- B. Business establishments, such as industrial buildings or plants, manufacturing plants, restaurants, seafood packing houses and others, according to the amount of metered water used or discharged as follows: 100% of the water service billing or a minimum charge of **\$114.30**, whichever is greater.
- C. Industrial and other users who contribute particularly strong sewage, as determined by the City, will be subject to a surcharge which will defray and meet all extra sewage treatment costs as follows:
 - (1) Suspended solids: a surcharge of 0.2% of the sewage bill for each part per million by which the suspended solids exceed 400 parts per million as determined at any time during the month by the City.
 - (2) Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD): a surcharge of 0.2% of the sewage bill for each part per million by which the BOD exceeds 400 parts per million as determined at any time during the month by the City.
 - (3) Chlorine demand: a surcharge of 0.5% of the sewage bill for each part per million by which the chlorine demand exceeds 50 parts per million as determined at any time during the month by the City; or, if lesser, a surcharge factor applied to the sewage bill, determined as follows:

$$F = 500 + R(S-400) + 1.33 R(BOD-400) + R(CL-50)\500$$

Where

R = Ratio of treatment cost to total operating cost for sewage system.

F = Surcharge factor.

S = Suspended solids in parts per million in discharge.

BOD = The standard five-day biochemical oxygen demand in parts per million of the discharge.

CL = The chlorine demand in order to have chlorine residual after 15 minutes of 0.5 part per million.

- (4) The City may make an additional charge for the costs of a sewage overload or surge.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CRISFIELD, MARYLAND, as follows:

Section 2. It is the intention of the Mayor and Council that each provision of this Ordinance shall be deemed independent of all other provisions herein.

Section 3. It is further the intention of the Mayor and Council that if any section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable under applicable Maryland or federal law, such adjudication shall apply only to the section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision so adjudged and all other provisions of this Ordinance shall remain valid and enforceable.

Section 4. The above recitals are incorporated into this section of the Ordinance as if specifically set forth at length in this Section 4.

Section 5. This Ordinance shall become effective on July 1, 2024.

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THIS ORDINANCE was introduced at a meeting of the Mayor and Council on the 22nd day of May 2024, a Public Hearing with regard to this Ordinance, as convened by the Mayor and Council, was held on the 22nd day of May 2024, and having been published by law in the meantime, was finally passed at a meeting of the Mayor and Council convened on the ____ day of June 2024.

CITY COUNCIL OF CRISFIELD:

Ivan Lankford Vice-President

Eric Banks, Councilman

Casey Goldsborough, Councilman

Laverne Johnson, Councilwoman

Ruthie E. Todd, Councilwoman

Approved this ____ day of _____, 2024.

ATTEST:

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Darlene Taylor, Mayor

Approved as to form:

Andrew Illuminati, City Solicitor